

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 05208 060713Z

20

ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-11 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00

NSCE-00 SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 FBO-02 SCS-03 SCCT-01

DHA-02 AID-05 CCO-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSC-05

SP-02 OC-05 OPR-02 PA-01 USSS-00 PRS-01 SCA-01 A-01

OMB-01 SS-15 /092 W

----- 071489

O R 060644Z APR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2123

INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

USMISSION USUN NEW YORK

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 5208

FOR A/SY, EUR/SOV; A/SY PASS TO USIA/IOS

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ASEC, PFOR, UR, US

SUBJECT: HARASSMENT OF EMBASSY PERSONNEL

REF: MOSCOW 5129

1. AT APPROXIMATELY 1930 HOURS ON APRIL 5, EMBASSY PAO RAYMOND BENSON WAS DETAINED AND THREATENED BY GROUP OF ABOUT SIX OR SEVEN SOVIETS IN DRIVEWAY LEADING TO CHAYKOVSKIY CONSERVATORY CONCERT HALL. BENSON HAD DROPPED WIFE AND USIS INSPECTORS AT HALL AND PARKED PERSONAL VEHICLE ALONG EXIT DRIVEWAY APPROXIMATELY 50 YARDS FROM ENTRANCE CONCERT HALL. AS HE TURNED AWAY FROM HIS VEHICLE, BENSON ACCOSTED BY INDIVIDUAL ASKING IF HE AMERICAN, THEN WAS IMMEDIATELY SURROUNDED BY GROUP OF SIX OR SEVEN SOVIETS WHO BUMPED AND JOSTLED HIM

AND PULLED AT LAPELS HIS SUIT JACKET FOR APPROXIMATELY FIVE MINUTES AS HE TRIED TO GET BY. MINIMAL CONVERSATION IN RUSSIAN

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CONSISTED OF "DO YOU KNOW WHAT IS HAPPENING TO SOVIET DIPLOMATS

IN NEW YORK? DON'T YOU LIVE PEACEFULLY IN MOSCOW? IF THERE IS A SERIOUS

INCIDENT TO OUR DIPLOMATS IN NEW YORK, THERE WILL BE RETALIATION
HERE. TELL YOUR AMBASSADOR."

2. SCIENCE OFFICER JACK GOSNELL REPORTED NOTE WAS LEFT UNDER
WINDSHIELD WIPER OF PERSONAL CAR WHILE PARKED IN FRONT OF BUILDING
HOUSING STATE COMMITTEE FOR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN
1630-1700 HOURS ON APRIL 5. TEXT OF NOTE IS QUOTED AS FOLLOWS:
QUOTE AMERICANS* ANY PATIENCE BECOMES EXHAUSTED. WE ARE WARNING
YOU, WE WILL NO LONGER LEAVE UNPUNISHED THE HOOLIGAN ACTIONS IN
AMERICAN TOWARD SOVIET CITIZENS. WATCH OUT* WE WILL BE MERCILESS*

3. OVER PAST 24 HOURS CLOSE HARASSING SURVEILLANCE OF EMBASSY
OFFICERS COMBS AND MILLER HAS CONTINUED.

STOESSEL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: DIPLOMATIC PERSONNEL HARASSMENT, PERSONNEL SECURITY, REPRISALS, THREATS
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Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 06 APR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: ShawDG
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
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Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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04 MAY 2006

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